

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

14-76

Orleans

EAS.1317

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town/City: EASTHAM

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Address: 875 Samoset Road

Historic Name: George and Marie Dyke House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: [1911-1920]

Source: Title research, 1920 Eastham Tax Commitment Book

Style/Form: No Style

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Posts

Wall/Trim: Wood shingles, textured plywood/ Wood

Roof: Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Outbuilding (use unknown)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 1.07 acres

Setting: This parcel is located on the south side of Samoset Road and stretches towards Herring Pond. The parcel is left in a natural state along the street, partially obscuring the house from view. The surrounding area includes mid- to late-20th century houses, and conservation land across Herring Pond Way to the east.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Eric Dray, Preservation Consultant, for

Organization: Eastham Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): April 2025

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

EASTHAM

875 SAMOSET ROAD

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The core of the George and Marie Dyke House, built in ca. 1911-1920, is a 1 ½-story, gable-roofed block. What likely began as covered porches have since been enclosed, and there are also one-story additions. The house is clad in a combination of wood shingles and textured plywood. The use of lattice screening below the wrap-around porches suggests that the porches, and possibly the main block, rest of a foundation of posts. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles and has projecting open eaves (a common feature of early-20th century cottages). A narrow brick chimney rises from the main roof ridge. Fenestration includes modern, thermal 1/1 and 6/6 windows set in flat surrounds. Most notably, the enclosed porch has banks of wood, single-glazed, 2/2 windows with wood exterior storms that are early if not original (see Photo 2).

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Incorporated as Nauset Plantation in 1646, and changed to Eastham in 1651, Eastham territory originally extended south to Pleasant Bay and north beyond Wellfleet Harbor. The early development pattern for what we now know as Eastham was impacted by its absence of deep-water harbor facilities. Relatively fertile soil led to dispersed agricultural settlement, but residential and commercial development was concentrated to the north at Wellfleet Harbor and to the south at Town Cove and Pleasant Bay. When the separate towns of Wellfleet and Orleans were created in the late-18th century, Eastham became and remained one of the least populated towns on the Cape throughout the 19th century.

In the 19th century, Eastham was the agricultural center of the Outer Cape. Crops evolved over time; corn and dairy were surpassed in the early-20th century by asparagus and turnips - two crops well suited for the sandy soil. In 1900, 58% of Eastham's workers were employed as farmers, but by 1930 that number had dwindled to 21%. Summer resort development, including cottage colonies and subdivisions of former farmland that would transform Eastham, had begun in earnest in the 1920s as middle-class access to car ownership increased and Cape roads were improved.

This cottage has an Assessor date of 1910, but the house is not present on the 1910 Barnstable County Atlas. There is a house shown closer to Herring Pond with the name "F. Poole," but title research does not connect this house to the Poole family. Based on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) aerial surveys of Cape Cod which began in 1938, that house closer to Herring Pond is 20 Herring Pond Road, which was rebuilt in 1997. That 1938 map also shows this house, and shows how open this former farmland remained (Photo 5).

Title research for this property tracks back to 1911, when George D. Dyke of Boston purchased a 7 ¾-acre parcel for \$500 from Abbie and Louis Ullman of NY, NY.¹ That deed did not reference buildings. Two years before, George Dyke had purchased the ca. 1873 house at 90 Samoset Road (EAS.66) near Long Pond. According to the Form B for that property, George Darwin Dyke (1855-1915) was a partner in the public weighing firm of Dyke, Shute and Company. In 1887, he had married Marie Eugenie Curtis of Abington, and by 1910 the couple had five children. The family used 90 Samoset Road as a summer home, sometimes spending only weeks and sometimes the entire season in Eastham. After George D. Dyke's death in 1915, the family continued to use that house seasonally, and the widowed Marie Eugenie Dyke moved to 90 Samoset Road year-round. As she aged, she began to spend winters with her children off Cape, and she died in 1937.

¹ Barnstable County Registry of Deeds, Book 314/ Page 287.

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It is unclear how soon after buying this land in 1911 that this cottage was built. The Eastham Tax Commitment Books for 1903-1919 are not available. The 1920 Tax Commitment Book lists Mrs. George D. Dyke as being taxed on a dwelling house (90 Samoset Road), and two cottages, very likely including this one. This would mean the cottage was built sometime between 1911 and 1920.

In 1925, Marie Eugenie Dyke was listed living in Eastham when she sold this 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre parcel, now with reference to a dwelling house and other buildings, to Hattie P. Hatch.² Hattie Peebles Hatch (1862-1947), and her husband Freeman Hatch (1858-1945) already owned a 5-acre parcel on the north side of Samoset Road that fronted on Great Pond where they built a number of cottages. Census records indicate that Freeman Hatch grew up in this section of Eastham. In 1865, he and his family shared a house with his grandparents Edward and Jerusha Clark and their youngest son John A. Clark and his wife Tamson Gill. By 1880, however, the Hatches had moved to Palmer, where James Hatch continued as a currier, and sons Freeman and James worked in a fish market. After he married Hattie Peebles, Freeman Hatch moved his family to Springfield, where he worked as a fruit and produce dealer. The 1929 Cape directory lists Freeman Hatch as a summer resident on Samoset Road.

The 1930 census lists Freeman C. Hatch as an Eastham resident with \$1500 in real property and living with his wife Hattie, but by 1940 the couple had returned to Springfield to live with their married daughter Edna H. Ullman and her husband Harry, a New York native who managed a manufacturing company. In 1944, Hattie Hatch sold this 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre property to Arthur L. Root of Warren in Worcester County.³ Arthur Leonard Root (1896-ca. 1947) was the son of Hattie's sister, Lizzie A. (Peebles) Root. He bought this property with his second wife, Ruth H. (d. 1955), whom he had married in 1937. Arthur Root operated a heating and plumbing business for many years, and his wife was listed as a supervisor for a telephone company in the 1940 census. Following Ruth's death, Arthur married for a third time to Flora Dalve, and he deeded to her joint interest in this property in 1957, and Arthur died shortly thereafter.

In 1958, Flora Root recorded a 6-lot subdivision of this property with this house on Lot 1 (Figure 2).⁴ In 1971, the executor for her estate sold just this Lot 1 to Eleanor Majlinger of New Britain, CT.⁵ In 2009, Eleanor Majlinger conveyed this property to her daughters, Ivy Ann Doyle of Hartford, CT and Susan T. Cort of Sarasota, FL.⁶ In 2016, they sold it to the current owners, Jeffrey Brian and Lynn Howard Hoag of Haddonfield, NJ.⁷

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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<https://digital.olivesoftware.com/Olive/APA/Sturgis/#panel=home>.

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Town of Eastham Tax Commitment Books. 1902-57.

United States Geological Survey. Aerial Survey 1938-2020,
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www.ancestry.com - Vital records.

² Book 314/ Page 287.

³ Book 614/ Page 588. It is worth noting that many of the early-20th century cottages in the west section of central Eastham were either built or purchased by residents of Worcester County.

⁴ Plan Book 141/ Page 123.

⁵ Book 1565/ Page 29.

⁶ Book 23991/ Page 122.

⁷ Book 29403/ Page 126.

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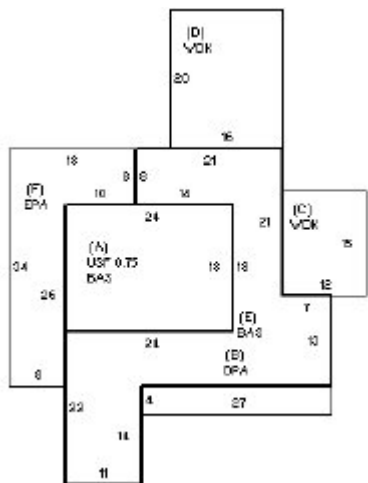


Figure 1. Assessor Sketch.



Photo 2. View looking northeast (2017 Assessor photo).



Photo 3. View looking southeast (2017 Assessor photo).



Photo 4. View looking south (2017 Assessor photo).

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Photo 5. Detail of 1938 USGS aerial survey (arrow to house added).

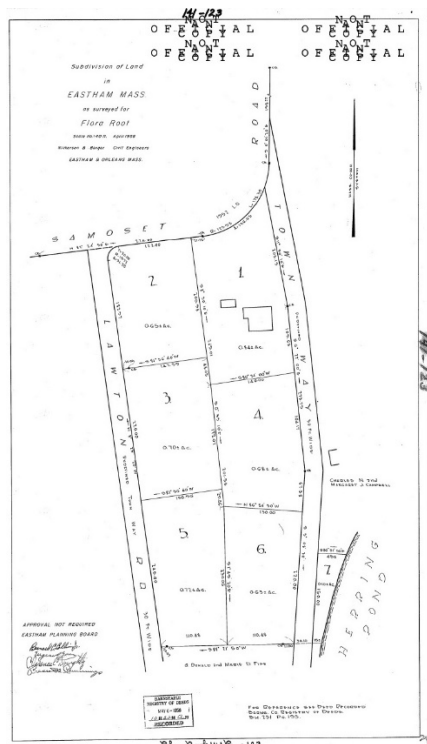


Figure 2. 1958 subdivision, Plan Book 141/ Page 123.